

VZCZCXRO7553
RR RUEHDE
DE RUEHAD #2281/01 1560922
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 050922Z JUN 06
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5460
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
RHEFHLC/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC
RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC
RUCNFB/FBI WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 ABU DHABI 002281

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

TREASURY FOR U/S SLEVEY, RLEBENSON, PHEFFERNAN, KHECHT,
ASZUBIN
FBI FOR TFOS MMOREHART, FWAIKART
DHS FOR ICE KDELACOLLI, JGALLION
CIA FOR CTC/FINO
MANAMA FOR JBEAL
NSC FOR FTOWNSEND, JZARATE, MMALVESTI, NSHAMPAIN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/05/2016

TAGS: PTER KTFN AE

SUBJECT: DRAFT U.S./UAE JTFCC MOU FOR INTERAGENCY COMMENT

REF: A. ABU DHABI 2211
1B. 2005 STATE 208617
1C. ABU DHABI 409
1D. ABU DHABI 2081

Classified By: Ambassador Michele J. Sison for reasons 1.5 b and d.

1. (C) Summary. At the request of the UAE Central Bank Governor, Embassy has prepared a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the U.S. and UAE to formalize the Joint Terrorist Finance Coordinating Committee (JTFCC). The purpose of this MOU is to give the UAE chair of the JTFCC (presumably the Central Bank Governor) the authority to summon federal and emirate-level participants to future JTFCC meetings. Embassy would like interagency comments/clearance on this draft MOU in advance of Advisor to the President for Homeland Security and Counter Terrorism (APHSCT) Frances Fragos Townsend's trip to the UAE at the end of June. This cable contains an action request in paragraph 3. End summary.

1. (C) In a May 29 meeting with Ambassador, Central Bank Governor Sultan Nasser al-Suweidi requested the U.S. and UAE sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formalize the Joint Terror Finance Coordinating Committee (JTFCC) (ref A). Al-Suweidi emphasized that an MOU would enable the UAE to call the appropriate federal and emirate officials to the JTFCC meetings without referring the matter to the UAE ruling family leadership on each occasion.

1. (C) Action Request for EB/ESC/TFS: Embassy's JTFCC team (DOJ/OPDAT, ECON, LEGAT, DHS/ICE, SIMO) has prepared a draft MOU. Please circulate the below text to the TerFin PCC participants for their comment and clearance. Please respond to Embassy via cable with a cleared MOU by COB June 16. End action request.

1. (C/REL UAE)
----- Begin Text of Draft MOU -----

Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Arab Emirates Establishing the United States/United Arab Emirates Joint Terrorist Finance Coordinating Committee:

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Arab Emirates;

Agreeing on the importance of existing cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Arab Emirates;

Seeking to promote the observance of the national laws of their respective countries regarding terrorist financing; and

Desiring to strengthen and develop further their joint efforts to combat the financing of all forms of terrorist activity,

Hereby agree to create an interagency Joint Terrorist Finance Coordinating Committee.

Statement of Purpose:

1. The Joint Terrorist Finance Coordinating Committee (JTFCC) shall be a joint interagency policy coordination

committee of the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Arab Emirates (hereafter &the Governments8), which will bring together components of the Governments that are engaged in joint counter-terrorist finance efforts in the United Arab Emirates. The JTFCC shall:

- ¶A. Establish policy priorities for combating terrorist financing and develop long-term counter-terrorist finance strategies.
- ¶B. Propose interagency programs and initiatives designed to implement JTFCC policy priorities and to achieve specific

ABU DHABI 00002281 002 OF 003

counter-terrorist finance goals.

- ¶C. Review and evaluate joint counter-terrorist finance efforts and recommend improvements to better implement JTFCC strategies and to meet TFCC goals.

¶2. The scope of this MOU is limited to policy coordination. The JTFCC shall not be mechanism for approving or executing specific programs or operations (which shall be left to the individual agencies responsible for the programs). The cooperation envisioned by this MOU shall be separate and apart from any and all intelligence activities between the two countries directly or indirectly concerning terror finance.

¶3. In addition, the JTFCC shall enhance, but shall not restrict or limit, the continuation and expansion of the day-to-day relationships currently ongoing between United States agencies and their counterparts in the Government of the United Arab Emirates.

Participation:

¶4. Members of the JTFCC shall include officials from the ministries, departments and agencies of the Governments that are responsible for enforcing the Governments, counter-terrorism laws and fulfilling the Governments, bilateral agreements regarding counter-terrorist financing. These shall include, at a minimum, the following:

¶A. For the Government of the United States of America: The United States Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates; the Department of State Economic Counselor; the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the Department of Homeland Security U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and the Department of Justice.

¶B. For the Government of the United Arab Emirates: The Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Ministry of Interior; the Ministry of Justice; the Customs Federal Corporation; Dubai Police Department; and Dubai Customs Authority.

¶5. The JTFCC shall be co-chaired by two officials, one identified by each Government. The U.S. side shall be chaired by a policy-level Washington official, Assistant Secretary or above. These officials shall have authority to

SIPDIS
convene meetings of the JTFCC and to summon the membership on behalf of their respective Governments. Notice of any change in chairmanship shall be submitted at least one month prior to the subsequent JTFCC meeting.

Organization:

¶6. The JTFCC shall meet in September 2006, and approximately every four months thereafter. The co-chairs shall determine the meeting agenda, and at each meeting the date for the subsequent meeting shall be fixed. Unless otherwise agreed, meetings of the JTFCC shall be held in the United Arab Emirates.

¶7. The JTFCC may create ad hoc subgroups to address particular counter-terrorist finance issues. These subgroups will meet as necessary to carry out their responsibilities, and shall provide reports to the full JTFCC at regular JTFCC meetings.

Effective Date and Amendment:

¶8. This Memorandum shall become effective upon signature on behalf of the Governments, and may be amended at any time by mutual consent.

¶9. This Memorandum is revocable at any time. The termination will become effective upon receipt of written notification by either party.

Signatures:

ABU DHABI 00002281 003 OF 003

The parties hereto have executed this Memorandum of
Understanding on:

For the Government of the United States of America:

For the Government of the United Arab Emirates:

----- End Text of Draft MOU -----

SISON